

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
DOCKET NO. 94-039-C - ORDER NO. 94-369 *c*  
APRIL 22, 1994

IN RE: Petition of Peoples Telephone Company, Inc. ) ORDER  
DBA Telink for Approval to Transfer Assets ) APPROVING  
Necessary to Provide Inmate Telephone ) TRANSFER  
Services from Hospitality Communications, ) OF  
Inc. to Peoples Telephone Company, Inc. ) ASSETS

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) by way of a Petition filed on January 18, 1994, by Peoples Telephone Company, Inc. d/b/a Telink (Peoples) requesting Commission approval to transfer assets of Hospitality Communications, Inc. (Hospitality) necessary to provide automated collect-only local, intraLATA and interLATA inmate telephone services from Hospitality to Peoples. The Petition was filed pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. §58-9-310 (Supp. 1993).

The matter was duly noticed to the public. A Petition to Intervene was filed on behalf of Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company (Southern Bell). Southern Bell subsequently filed a Motion to Withdraw its Intervention which was granted by the Commission by Order No. 94-185 dated March 7, 1994. Peoples submitted verified testimony. Consequently, the Commission determined that it would consider the Petition without a hearing.

After consideration of the Petition, the submitted testimony, and the applicable law, the Commission makes the following findings

of fact and conclusions of law:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. According to the Petition and the verified testimony of Steve Alexander, Director of Regulatory Affairs for Peoples, both Peoples and Hospitality have authority to provide inmate telephone services in South Carolina. Mr. Alexander explained that Peoples was granted authority to provide COCOT services by this Commission in Docket No. 85-150-C, Order No. 88-71 dated January 13, 1988, and that Peoples was granted a certificate to operate as a reseller of telecommunications services in Docket No. 93-026-C, Order No., 92-430. Mr. Alexander stated that Peoples was granted authority to provide inmate telephone service in Docket 93-416-C, Order No. 93-840 dated September 3, 1993, via a transfer of inmate telephone service authority previously held by Silverado Communications Corporation. Mr. Alexander also testified that Peoples provides pay telephone service through approximately 35,700 payphones located in 47 states and that Peoples is the largest independent pay telephone operator in the nation.

2. Mr. Alexander testified that Peoples maintains an experienced technical staff, that Peoples' key personnel possess a broad spectrum of business and technical experience in various aspects of the telecommunications industry, that Peoples provides its services through state of the art equipment, and that Peoples possesses the financial stability necessary to provide inmate services in South Carolina.

3. Mr. Alexander also testified that Peoples will fully comply with the rules and regulations of this Commission.

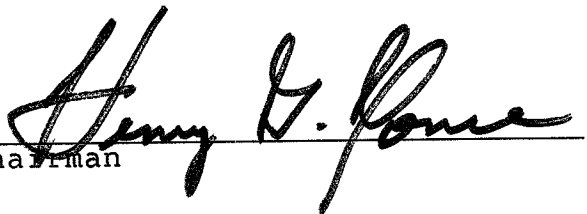
CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Commission concludes that the proposed asset transfer should be granted. Consequently, the Commission hereby approves the requested transfer in accordance with the terms of the Petition and Mr. Alexander's testimony.

2. The Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity currently held by Hospitality is hereby canceled.

3. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
Chairman

ATTEST:

  
Executive Director

(SEAL)